

Parks Commission
November 12, 2015
Municipal Office, Conference Room A
5:30 p.m

Minutes (all members present, including 3 students from SNHU to gather information for school report)

Park Officer – Rich and Chief Short met to discuss the feasibility of hiring an officer for the FF season to enforce park rules and add a safety presence. FF hit a high last season of 38,552 people and 2103 dogs (an increase of 20% from the previous high in 2013) Due to FF's growing popularity and attendance the timing seems appropriate to add resources for patrons. Adding a Park Officer would provide comfort to patrons to talk to someone that can enforce the park rules and provide on-sight support for patrons with issues/complaints (ex.dogs,drones,etc.) Currently park attendants are the only authority and have to call the police to enforce rules if someone is being aggressive or combative.

- Three options were discussed
 1. A "reserve" officer is not considered full time and can be used as a summer officer
Generally a college student (criminal justice) looking for experience
Hire in May and runs through Sept or when they go back to school
Commonly used for beaches locally. Currently used in York, Ogunquit, Wells, etc.
Would have a bike and police shirt
Authorized to enforce park rules, has the power to arrest, carries a weapon for self-protection
Would be employee of police department. Police Dept would bill DPW and pay for out of DPW budget
No benefits / 40hrs per week / \$20 per hr / <\$500 for training depending on level of training
If needed can do 2 people at 20hrs per week
Police Department is open to exploring it further as it would relieve police from patrolling.
 2. Kittery Animal Control Officer - Bill Hackett
Has the power to arrest with his training and status
Currently works Fri/Sat/Sun/Mon.
Use more effectively and look to add hours.
Confirm cost with Chief Short. Current pay is ~\$15K (per 2015 budget)
http://www.kitteryme.gov/Pages/KitteryME_Manager/2015ProposedBudget.pdf
Chief Short supports encouraging his presence of FF and Seapoint during the summer
 3. Eliot Animal Control
Can enforce town ordinances but not criminal or state statutes
Has to call police b/c disobeying Park rules and regs becomes criminal
\$15/hr
Currently only working 10hrs per week

Vote to pursue further (unanimously in favor of option 1). Re-discuss options 2/3 if 1 is not feasible. Important that the marketing/news does not give the impression that there are problems at FF. There is an overall desire of the PC to find a friendly officer who would add value and provide support to patrons with questions/issues knowing the rules, not an officer that is "lurking or leering"

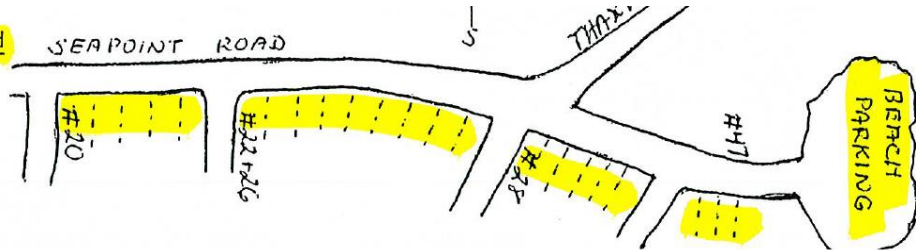
Rich and Page will present a reserve officer to Nancy and Norm and get attendance opinion at meeting on 11/19. If supported next step is figuring out how to pay for it.

Seapoint beach parking Spots - Rich and Chief Short met and reviewed parking spots. All signs looked to be correct. Since meeting, Rich has reviewed the Town Ordinance and went back to Chief Short questioning the location and

number of spots across from house #47. Waiting for a reply from Chief Short, then can double check parking signs match correctly. Page thinks the ordinance is wrong and those parking spots do not exist.

<http://kitteryme.gov/Pages/S01F804D8-02BB4AB2.0/Changes%20at%20Seapoint%20Beach.pdf>

NOTE: Highlighted areas depict ALL legal parking areas.



Detailed Finance Review - With the interest in adding a Park Officer and other resources to the park, there is a need to review revenue in detail to clearly understand where the money is being generated. The information kept through the town hall is not detailed and Rich is looking for suggestions and help to organize and understand the data. The town office provides totals, but the inclusive existing costs consist of :

\$20	Kittery season Pass	\$1/\$5	Child/adult walkin
\$15	duplicate non resident	\$60	Non resident pass
\$5	kittery duplicate pass	\$100	bus
\$0.50	Family member pass card	\$50	Student school bus
\$5	senior citizen season pass	\$50,\$100	reservations
	<u>Passes not sold at town</u>	\$10	Vehicle pass

Recommendations to sample a small amount of town hall receipts or talk to gate attendant/town clerks. Denise will help Rich decipher information.

Dog issues

- Reviewed rumor to dogs being banned. This is a regular rumor and Page will make sure it is still just a rumor
- Reviewed Clean up schedule (1 MITA/KTP/TEVA cleanup, ~2 dog waste cleanups, 1 invasive pull
- Dave expressed better marketing of the existing cleanups and post at the gatehouse to spread awareness and show action to combat rumor of the park being dirty and dogs should be banned.
- Had idea to add more (maybe in fall) and expressed interest to be proactive. Rich passed along contact information.

Meeting 11/19

- Page, Nancy, Norm, Rich, Mark
- Forms Review
- Will try to add to agenda
 - Gate attendant Data collection
 - Park Officer
 - Adding location markers (introduce Page and Gale as leads)
 - Signs intersection of Pocahontas Rd and 103
 - Entrance signs for SeaPoint (at the top of the hill)
 - Entrance sign Fort Foster
 - like the signs the Town has for the KCC and the Shapleigh Field